

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 MMO-01 A-01 AID-05
ICAE-00 PC-01 ABF-01 /037 W
-----125092 131720Z /43
R 131415Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY MASERU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8528
INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 MASERU 0844

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AMGT PFOR, LT
SUBJECT: GOALS/OBJECTIVES AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (GORM)

REF: STATE 69374,

A. TOTAL MISSION RESOURCES (OPTIMAL) FY 80

1. PERSONNEL

	DIRECT HIRE (INCREASE)		CONTRACT (INCREASE)	
	U.S.	LOCAL	U.S.	LOCAL
STATE (A)	10(5)	6(2)	1	0
AID (B)	8	4(2)	75(15)	11(2)
ICA(C)	2(1)	5(2)	0	4(2)
PEACE CORPS (D)	4	5	0	2
TOTAL (INCREASE)	24(6)	20(6)	76(15)	17(4)

(A) STATE STAFF INCREASE OF 5 REQUIRED AS FOLLOWS:
(1) RESIDENT AMBASSADOR, WHICH GOL IS EXPECTED TO REQUEST
FORMALLY FOLLOWING EXCHANGE BETWEEN LESOTHO AMBASSADOR AND
DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS IN FEBRUARY 1978; (2) TO SUPPORT AMBASSADOR
A PERSONAL ASSISTANT (SECRETARY) WILL BE ESSENTIAL ADDITION TO
THE ONE AMERICAN SECRETARY AT POST;
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(3) A POL/ECON OFFICER IS INDISPENSABLE, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF
FULL-TIME CONSULAR AND SELF-HELP RESPONSIBILITIES AND NEED TO
MONITOR INCREASING AID ACTIVITIES, REPORT ON REGIONAL TIES, ETC.;

(4) A COMMUNICATOR IS BASIC ADDITION (TO ASSIST PRESENT ONE-MAN
C&R OPERATION), AS MASERU BECOMES AFRECON AND NODAL STATION;

(5) ONE GSO WILL BE REQUIRED TO MEET EXPANDED U.S. STAFF OUTLINED ABOVE. TWO ADDITIONAL LOCAL ADDITIONS, FSL CLERICAL AND DRIVER/CLERK ARE MINIMAL INCREASES IN LOCAL STAFF SUPPORT. LOCAL STAFF INCLUDES PIT POSITION. CONTRACTOR PROVIDES 6 GUARDS, 1 GARDENER AND 1 CHAR WOMAN.

(B) AID'S FY 80 ABS PROJECTS INCREASE IN USDH TO 14. EIGHT POSITIONS ARE NOW AUTHORIZED, FOUR OF WHICH NOT YET SUBJECT OF FIRM NOMINATIONS. PRESENT PLATEAU IN AID ASSISTANCE LEVELS IS APPROPRIATE BASED ON POLICY AND ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS (SEE BELOW). THIS FACT, COMBINED WITH LOGISTICAL AND OTHER PROBLEMS, LEADS TO RECOMMENDATION THAT AID GET AUTHORIZED STAFF LEVEL (8) ON BOARD AND FULLY ENGAGED, AND OVERALL REGIONAL RESOURCES AND WORK REQUIREMENTS EVALUATED, BEFORE JUDGING FY 80 NEEDS.

(C) ICA. IT IS IN DIRECT US INTEREST TO MAKE THE MOST OF CURRENT ATMOSPHERE OF FREEDOM TO OPERATE IN LESOTHO. PRESENT ONE AMERICAN OPERATION (PAO) IS INADEQUATE TO MAINTAIN CURRETN ACTIVITIES. A SECOND AMERICAN POSITION, PREFERABLY CULTURAL OFFICER, IS REQUIRED TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT PRIORITY OBJECTIVES AND PROGRAMS, E.G., THOSE DIRECTED AT RADICAL UNIVERSITY AND REFUGEE CIRCLES, WHICH ARE NECESSARY TO HELP LESOTHO SURVIVE AS MODERATE, DEMOCRATIC ALTERNATIVE TO APARTHEID AND RADICALIZATION.

(D) PEACE CORPS. WHILE PEACE CORPS CAN JUSTIFY INCREASED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROGRAM COSTS TO CARRY OUT "NEW DIRECTIONS" POLICY, WE BELIEVE NO ADDITIONAL USDH STAFF IS JUSTIFIED AT THIS TIME. OUR GOAL IS TO REDUCE PCV TOTALS. THIS MAY WELL RESULT FROM ATTRITION AS RESULT OF CUTTING BACK ON PCV TEACHERS. WITH REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF PCVS, PRESENT STAFF OF FOUR SHOULD BE ADEQUATE AS IN THE PAST.

2. FUNDING

PROGRAM (INCLUDING ADMIN. OVERHEAD WHERE APPLICABLE, IN DOLLARS

	OPTIMAL	INCREASE
STATE	300,000	220,000
AID (A)	6,800,000	1,800,000
ICA	250,000	60,000
PEACE CORPS	835,000	126,000
SELF HELP	150,000	20,000
TOTAL	8,335,000	2,226,000

(A) DOES NOT INCLUDE CAPITAL PROJECTS SUCH AS FY 78 \$25 MILLION GRANT FOR LESOTHO SOUTHERN PERIMETER ROAD.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT ONLY

	FY 80 OPTIMAL	INCREASE
STATE	500,000	350,000
AID	1,346,000	563,000
ICA	0	0
PEACE CORPS	46,500	7,000
TOTAL	1,892,500	920,000

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B. AGENCY PROGRAMS RELATED TO GOALS/OBJECTIVES

STATE. STATE DEPARTMENT'S AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO RAISING LEVEL OF US REPRESENTATION IN LESOTHO TO THAT OF RESIDENT AMBASSADOR IS APPROPRIATE REFLECTION OF REVISED U.S. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES AND ENHANCED U.S. NATIONAL INTEREST, E.G., AS EVIDENT IN SHARP INCREASES IN RESOURCES COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING INDEPENDENCE OF LESOTHO. OUR GOAL IS TO INFLUENCE LESOTHO TO MAINTAIN ITS PRESENT POLICIES IN FACE OF APARTHEID AND PROVOCATIONS BY ITS ONLY NEIGHBOR, SOUTH AFRICA. STRATEGIC AS WELL AS TACTICAL REASONS UNDERLIE OUR ASSISTANCE TO LESOTHO IN ITS EFFORTS TO RESIST SAG PRESSURES, E.G., TO RECOGNIZE THE BANTUSTAN ON ITS BORDER (TRANSKEI) AND ECONOMIC PRESSURES. ALSO, WE CANNOT BE INDIFFERENT TO BASIC HUMAN NEEDS OF ONE OF THE WORLD'S LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. ELEVATION OF RELATIONS WOULD BE MEANINGLESS IF AMBASSADOR WERE WITHOUT EFFECTIVE SUPPORTING STAFF. THIS ACCOUNTS FOR STATE INCREASES LISTED ABOVE UNDER PERSONNEL. WE BELIEVE THIS TO BE MINIMUM REQUIRED UNDER THE NEW CIRCUMSTANCES AND TO MAINTAIN PROGRAM DIRECTION, COORDINATION AND SUPERVISION OF SIZEABLE AND GROWING U.S. RESOURCE COMMITMENTS TO LESOTHO.

AID. USAID PROGRAMS ARE DESIGNED TO CONTRIBUTE DIRECTLY TO OVERALL POLICY OBJECTIVES INCLUDING ESPECIALLY TO JOINT U.S.-GOL AIM OF GREATER ECONOMIC/POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE FOR LESOTHO. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROGRAMS THAT RELATE DIRECTLY TO THIS GOAL INCLUDE:

- (1) LESOTHO SOUTHERN PERIMETER ROAD: THIS PROJECT HAS DIRECT BEARING ON GOL'S ABILITY TO RESIST SOUTH AFRICAN ECONOMIC PRESSURE AND TO REJECT RECOGNITION OF TRANSKEI BANTUSTAN;
- (2) AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS PROMISE TO PROVIDE BASIS FOR GREATER SELF-RELIANCE IN FEEDING THE POPULATION; AND
- (3) MANPOWER TRAINING IS DESPERATELY NEEDED TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT THAT GIVES MEANING TO LESOTHO'S INDEPENDENCE.

IN ADDITION, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN HEALTH, HOUSING, EDUCATION AND RURAL WATER SUPPLY PROMISE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE EVENTUAL ACHIEVEMENT OF GREATER GOL AUTONOMY AND SELF-CONFIDENCE. THE THRUST OF U.S. POLICY, AS INDICATED IN PRESIDENTIAL AND CONGRESSIONAL DECISIONS, IS TOWARD INCREASED ASSISTANCE TO MAJORITY-RULED SOUTHERN AFRICAN COUNTRIES, INCLUDING LESOTHO. STAFF AND FUNDING OUTLINED ABOVE FOR FY 80 ARE APPROPRIATE FOR ACHIEVEMENT OF THESE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES IN LESOTHO.

ICA. THE ICA PROGRAM PUBLICIZES AND CONTRIBUTES MATERIAL SUPPORT TO U.S. ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF LESOTHO'S EFFORTS TO DEVELOP ITS ECONOMY AND ACHIEVE A GREATER DEGREE OF INDEPENDENCE FROM SOUTH AFRICA. THROUGH EXCHANGE PROGRAMS AND VOA COOPERATION WITH RADIO LESOTHO, ICA SUPPORTS LESOTHO'S EFFORTS TO BROADEN ITS CONTACTS WITH THE UNITED STATES AND WITH OTHER AFRICAN STATES. ICA ALSO PROVIDES POLICY STATEMENTS TO KEY OFFICIALS AND MEDIA TO EXPAND LESOTHO'S UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT FOR U.S. POSITIONS IN INTERNATIONAL FORA, ESPECIALLY IN THE FIELDS OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND SOUTHERN AFRICA ISSUES OF TRANSITION TO MAJORITY RULE.

PEACE CORPS. MIDDLE LEVEL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING PROVIDED BY PEACE CORPS, ESPECIALLY IN FORM OF SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND INTERIM SUPERVISORS, IS HIGHLY PRIZED BY GOL AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONTRIBUTES TO FIRST FOUR POLICY OBJECTIVES FOR LESOTHO. THE PROPOSED SHIFT FROM THE PRESENT HEAVY EMPHASIS ON EDUCATION TO MORE NEARLY EQUAL EMPHASIS ON AGRICULTURE, HEALTH AND EDUCATION, SHOULD (ASSUMING IT IS EASILY ACCEPTED BY THE GOL OFFICIALS) RESULT IN NO LESS DIRECT CONTRIBUTION TO U.S. POLICY GOALS. HOWEVER, INITIAL EXPERIENCE INDICATES THAT THE NET RESULT MAY BE FEWER

PCVS; RECRUITING AND REPLACEMENT IN HEALTH AND AGRICULTURE SECTORS ARE LIKELY TO PROVE MORE DIFFICULT THAN IN EDUCATION. HENCE OUR EXPECTATION THAT NEW PROGRAM EMPHASIS COMBINED WITH CUTBACK IN PCVS IN EDUCATION WILL RESULT IN OVERALL REDUCTION IN NUMBERS THAT SHOULD ENABLE PRESENT PC STAFF TO HANDLE THEM.

C. REDUCTIONS

FIVE PERCENT CUT:

- CUT FARMING SYSTEMS RESEARCH (AID) COMMODITY PURCHASES (\$400,000)
- POSTPONE ONE ICA FSLE AND ONE LOCAL CONTRACT POSITION (\$10,000)
- REDUCE AMSPEC PROGRAM BY HALF (\$20,000)
- REDUCE PCVS BY 10 (\$40,000)

TEN PERCENT CUT:

- ALL FOREGOING REDUCTIONS (\$460,000)
 - SHARPLY REDUCE USE OF RENTAL CARS FOR TDY OFFICIALS AND OTHER LOCAL TRANSPORTATION (\$100,000)
 - REDUCE NUMBER OF AID TRAINEES UNDER S.A. MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT AND SAAST (\$100,000)
 - POSTPONE APPROVAL OR FUNDING OF PENDING AID TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REQUESTS (\$150,000)
 - DROP LEVEL OF PC VOLUNTEER INTAKE BY TEN PCVS (\$40,000)
- NORLAND

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